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Agenda item 2
Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

Written statement* submitted by the International Career Support Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[11 May 2017]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.17-09539(E)

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Request for Re-investigation of Comfort Women Issue

I am a Japanese researcher who study the comfort women issues described in the Coomaraswamy report in 1996.

At this opportunity, I would like to request reinvestigation of the Comfort Women Issues by a special rapporteur.

The hearing investigation report contains the claims that comfort women had been mutilated and beheaded and so on, but this information originated from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This country is a serious threat to the nuclear issue and Human Rights and is well-known for their dissemination of propaganda. Thus, I consider that the report based on the hearings from them is unreliable.

Moreover, with regard to the literature, when further investigating the books which became the basis of it, 74 references exist. On our study of those references, we found that 32 out of them had inaccurate information and more than 200 factual errors. Surprisingly, some of the references originate from comic books. It is a significant problem that Coomaraswamy's investigation was based on literature including comic books and filled with propaganda information.

Certainly, the investigation of the comfort women issue had just started in 1991, so it wasn't researched and studied sufficiently at that time of 1996.

It's depend on old information.

Currently, the groups leading the comfort women issue in the Republic of Korea are managed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and their propaganda information has led Japanese young people to facing bullying in United States of America.

In order to improve the human rights condition of Japanese people, we request more investigations to be conducted. Specifically, we strongly urge the United Nation Human Rights Council to take the initiative in sending a special rapporteur to Japan again and to conduct more detailed hearing and literature investigations.